कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविन्द नेतराम) : (क) मैसर्स भारतीय कृषक उर्वरक सहकारी लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली ने सूचित किया है कि उत्पादन के चरण में कठोर गुणवत्ता उपायों को अपने और सख्ती से गुणवत्ता का प्रावोधन करने के कारण मिलावटपूर्ण या गैर-मानकीकृत उर्वरकों की संभावना नहीं है । तथापि, वितरण, बिक्री और भंडारण के दौरान उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता में गिरावट आ सकती है और माध्यमिक चरणों में मिलावट हो सकती है ।

(ख) अगस्त, 1992 में विलासपुर (मध्य प्रदेश) के राज्य गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण प्रवर्तन प्राधिकारियों ने इफको के एन पी०के० 12-32-16, बैग में एस-एं० पी. की बिक्री के एक मामले का पता लगाया है ।

(ग) राज्य सरकारों को उर्वरक (नियंत्रण) आदेश 1985 का उल्लंघन करने वालों के खिलाफ दण्डात्मक कार्यवाही करने के लिए शक्तियां प्रदान की गई हैं । इसके अनुसार मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार मामले की जांच कर चुकी है और इस मामले पर कानूनी कार्यवाही कर रही है ।

Decline in Demand of Block Pepper

@1346. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight of the growers of black pepper in Kerala due to the decline in demand when the crop is expected to be good in the current year;

(b) whether the State Government has urged the Central Government to procure at least 20 per cent of the production by the official agencies at reasonable prices to make the market intervention more meaningful; and

(c) if so, what are the details there of and what is the Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c): State Government of Kerala informed the Central Government that the prices of black pepper had declined during the current year due to limited internal consumption and reduced exports and suggetsed that purchases should be made under mar ket intervention by National Agricul tural Cooperative Marketing Federa tion of India Limited (NAFED), the Central Nodal Agency and the State designated agency. A meeting to consider the market intervention price and other modalities was held with the State Government representative and NAFED. Purchases are generally made Pto 10 per cent of the market able surplus to begin with and the additional quantities can be purchas ed, if need be, in consultation with the State Government. The Sttafce re presentative desired that purchases should *he* made of 20 per cent of the avaiilable stocks including last year's Carry over stocks. He mentioned that the State Government would consider the proposal of the Central Government in respect of the Market Intervention Price and quantity Of the black pepper to be purchased. The reaction of the State Government is awaited.

Motorisation of fishing crafts

1347. DR. NARREDDY THULASIREDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to make up motorisations of 300 traditional fishing crafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been sanctioned; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government was received on 15-2-1993 for sanctioning motorisation of 800 traditional crafts under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(c) and (d) The proposal has been examined and motorisation of 500 traditional crafts has been approved.

Development of Floriculture

1348. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has been giving importance for the promotion and development of Floriculture;

(b) if so, the measures feeing taken with details; and

(c) what was budget allotted for the development of floriculture during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Central Sector Scheme on development of floriculture has been approved with an outlay of Rs. . 10 crore for the VIII Plan period.

(ii) In addition to the above, ICAR is operating two schemes namely: —

(a) All India Coordinated Research Project on floriculture with an outlay of Rs. 135.00 lakh.

(b) Establishment of National Research Centre on Orchid at a cost of Rs. 120.00 lakh.

(iii) Procedure for import and export of planting meterial of Horticulture crops including floriculture has „ been simplified to give boost to agriculture in the country.

(c) Budget allocation for the deve- lopment of floriculture through National Horticulture Board during the last Five Years was: —

1988-89	10,000
1989 -90	32,000
1990-91	1 87,000
1991-92	1,58,000
1992-93 . . .	1 95,000
Total:	5 82,000

Import of Flowers

1349. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: WiU the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that some varieties of flowers are being imported; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) As per the Export and Import Policy (1st April, 1992 to 31st March, 1997) the flowers fall in the category of consumer goods and is covered by the Negative List of Imports. The consumer items covered by the Negative List of Imports are not permitted to be imported except against a license or in accordance with a Public Notice issued in this behalf,